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THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

14 FEB 1983

Executive Registry
83-1004

Honorable William J. Casey
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill,

Thank you for your letter regarding commercialization of civil space remote sensing. The concerns you have raised on national security requirements have been a major topic of discussion during the review of commercialization of satellites. These concerns were discussed again at the December 15, 1982 meeting of the Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade (CCCT).

To ensure that all affected agencies have a strong voice in the next steps, the interagency coordinating and oversight body that was discussed in the CCCT will be formed when the President makes the final decision to proceed with commercialization. I will be asking Dr. Anthony J. Calio, Deputy Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to chair this group.

The interagency coordinating body will be responsible for drafting the procurement documentation and legislation, as well as providing a continuing oversight. In order to ensure that the group is influential and is thoroughly knowledgeable of Administration policies, I will be requesting that agency representatives be at the Assistant Secretary level, non-career appointees, and that alternates not be used. The body will, of course, have working groups reporting to it that would include senior civil servants. In the event that interagency disputes arise that cannot be settled within the body, the Senior Interagency Group for Space appears to provide an appropriate path for resolution of the disputes.

I will provide more details and ask for the names of your representative after the President reaches a decision on the CCCT recommendation.

Sincerely,

Mac

Secretary of Commerce

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